

THE HUMBLE Petition of the Gentry

and Commons of the County of YORKE,

Presented to His Majestie at *Torke*,

Aprill 22. 1642.

AND

His Majesties Messlage sent to the Parliament

Aprill 24. 1642.

Concerning Sir *John Hothams* Refusall to give him

Entrance into Hull.

Wherunto is annexed,

HIS MAJESTIES

ANSWER

To the Petition of the LORDS and

Commons in Parliament,

Concerning His Messlage lately sent to them declaring

His Resolution to goe into *Ireland.*



LONDON,

Printed by *The: Pawcet: 1642.*

To the Kings most Excel- lent MAJESTIE.

The humble Petition of the Gentry and Commons
of the County of YORK.

Most Royall Sovereigne :



Encouraged by Your Majesties many Testimonies of your gracious goodnesse to Us and our County, which wee can never sufficiently acknowledge; Wee in in all duty and loyalty of Heart addresse our selves to Your Sacred Majesty, beseeching You to cast Your eyes and thoughts upon the safety of Your owne Person and Your Princely Issue, and this whole Countrey, a great meanes of which we conceive doth consist in the Armes and Ammunition at Hull, placed there by Your Princely care and charge, and since upon generall apprehension of dangers from Forreign parts represented to Your Majesty, thought fit as yet to be continued. VVe for our parts, conceiving our selves to be still in danger, doe most humbly beseech your Majesty, that you will be pleased to take such course and order that your Magazine may still there remaine, for the better securing of these and the rest of the Northerne parts: And the rather because wee thinke it fit, that that part of the Kingdome should be best provided where your Sacred Person doth reside, your Person being like *Dauids*, The light of Israel, and more worth then ten thousand of Us.

who shall daily pray, &c.



His

15. 2. 25

His Maiesties Answer to a Petition presented to him
at Yorke, Aprill 18. 1642. by the Earle of Stamford, &c.
in the name of both Houses.

WE are so troubled and astonished to find the unexpected reception and misunderstanding of Our Message of the 8. of Aprill, concerning our Irish Journey, that being so much disappointed of the approbation and thanks we looked for to that Declaration; We have great cause to doubt, whether it be in Our power to say or do any thing which shall not fall within the like interpretation. But as We have in that Message called God to witness the sincerity of the profession of Our onely Ends for the undertaking that Journey; So we must appeale to all our good Subjects, and the whole world, whether the Reasons alleadged against that Journey be of weight to satisfie Our understanding, or the counsell presented to dissuade Us from it, be full of that duty as is like to prevaile over our affections. For our resolving of so great a businessse without the Advice of Our Parliament; We must remember you how often by Our Messages We made the same offer, if you should advise Us thereunto: To which you never gave us the least answer: But in your late Declaration told us, That ye were not to be satisfied with words: so that We had reason to conceive you rather avoided (out of regard to Our person) to give Us counsell to run that hazard, then that you disapproved the inclination. And what great comfort or security can the Protestants of Christendome receive then by seeing a Protestant King venture and engage his person for the defence of that Profession, and the suppression of Popery, to which We solemnly protested in that Message, never to grant a Toleration, upon what pretence soever, or an Abolition of any of the Lawes there in force against the Professors of it. And when We consider the great calamities, and unheard of cruelties Our poore Protestant Subjects in that Kingdome have undergone for the space of neare, or full sixe Moneths, the groweth and vnrcrease of the strength of those barbarous Rebels, and the evident probability of Forraigne Supplyes, (if they are not speedily suppressed) The very slow succours hitherto sent them from hence; That the Officers of severall Regiments, who have long since bin Allowed entertainment from

you

for that service have not raised any Supply or factor for that Kingdom. That many troupes of horse have long lien neer hester untransported; That the Lord Lievtenant of *Ireland*, on whom We relyed principally for the Conduct and managing of Affayres there, is still in this Kingdom, notwithstanding Our earnestnesse expressed that he should repayre to his Command; And when We consider the many and great scandals raised upon Our Selfe by report of the Rebels, and not sufficiently discountenanced here, notwithstanding so many professions of Ours; And had seene a Booke lately printed by the Order of the House of Commons, Entituled; *A Remonstrance of diuers Remarkable Passages concerning the Church and Kingdome of Ireland*, Wherein some Examinations are set downe, which (how improbable or impossible soever) may make an impression in the minds of many of Our worthy Subjects: And lastly when We duly weigh the dishonour which will perpetually lye upon this Kingdom, if full and speedy reliefe be not dispatched thither, We could, nor cannot thinke of a better way to discharge Our duty to Almighty God, for the defence of the true Protestant Profession, or to manifest Our affection to Our three Kingdomes for their preservation, then by engaging Our Person in this expedition, as many of Our progenitors have done, even in Forreigne parts, upon causes of lesse importance and Piety, with great Honour to themselves, and advantage to this Kingdom: And therefore we expected at least, and pray for such Our inclination.

For the danger to our Person, We conceive necessary and worthy of a King to adventure his life to preserve his Kingdom: neither can it be imagined, that We will sit still, and suffer our Kingdomes to be lost, and Our good Protestant Subjects to be massacred, without exposing our own Person to the utmost hazard for their recovery and preservation: Our life when it was most pleasant, being nothing so precious to Us, as it is, and shall be to governe and preserve Our People with Honour and Justice.

For any encouragement to the Rebels, because of the reports raised, We cannot conceive that the Rebels are capable of a greater error, then by the presence of their Lawfull King in the head of an Army to chastise them; besides, it will be an unspeakeable advantage to them, if any reports of theirs could hinder us from doing any thing which were fit for us to do, if such reports were not raised: This would quickly teach them, in this jealous Age, to prevent by such reports any other persons comming against them, whom they had no mind should be so employed.

We marvell that the Adventurers, whose advantage was a principall Motive (next the reason before mentioned) to us, should, so much mistake Our purpose, whose Interest we conceive must be much improved by the expedition we hope (by Gods blessing) to use in this Service: this being the most probable way for the speedy Conquest of the Rebels: Their Lands are sufficiently secured by Act of Parliament.

We thinke not Our selfe kindly used, that the addition of so few men to your Leavies (for a guard to Our Person in Ireland) should be thought fit for your refusal: and much more, that having used so many Cautions in this Message, both in the smallness of the number; In Our having raised none untill your Answer: In their being to be raised onely neere their place of Shipping: In their being there to be Armed, and that, not till they were ready to be Shipped: In the provision by the Oaths, that none of them should be Papists (all which appeares sufficient to destroy all grounds of jealousie of any sort intended by them in opposition to the Parliament, or favour to any malignant party) any suspicion should notwithstanding be grounded upon it.

Neither can it be understood, That when We recommend the Managing of that War to you, That We intended to exclude Our selfe, or not to be concerned in your Counsels, That if We found any expedient (which in Our conscience or understanding Wee thought necessary for that great work) We might not put it in practice. We looke upon you as Our great Councell, whose advice VVe alwayes have and will (with great regard and deliberation) weigh and consider, But We looke upon Our selfe, as neither deprived of Our understanding, or devided of any right We had, if there were no Parliament sitting, We called you together by Our owne Writ and Authority (without which you could not have met) to give us your saythfull Cotuncell about Our great affairs: But wee resigned not up our owne Interest and Freedome, We never subjected our selfe to your absolute determination, VVe have alwayes weighed your Counsels, as proceeding from a Body, entrusted by us: And when we have distanced from you, VVe have returned you the reasons, which have prevailed with our conscience and understanding, with that Candor as a Prince should use towards his Subjects, and that affection, which a Father can expresse to his children. VVhat application hath beene used to redress

rectifie our understanding by reasons, or what Motives have beene given to perswade our affections, VVe leave to the world to judge. And then we must tell you, howsoever a Major part may bind you in matter of opinion, we hold our selfe (and we are sure the Law, and the constitution of the Kingdome hath alwayes held the same) as free to dissent (till our reason be convinced for the generall good) as if you delivered no opinion.

For our Journey it selfe, the circumstances of your Petition are such, as we know not well what answer to returne, or whether we were best to give any. That part which pretend: to carry reason with it, doth no way satisfie us: The other which is rather reprehension and Menace, then advice, cannot stagger us. Our Answer therefore is, That we shall be very glad to find the worke of Ireland so easie as you seeme to thinke it, which did not so appeare by any thing knowen to us, when we sent our Message. And though we will never refuse, or be unwilling to venture Our person for the good and safety of our People, VVe are not so weary of our life as to hazard it impertinently. And therefore since you seeme to have received advertisements of some late and great Successes in that Kingdome, we will stay some time to see the event of those, and not pursue this resolution, till we have given you a second notice. But if we find the miserable condition of Our poore Subjects of that Kingdome be not speedily releevd, we will (with Gods assistance) visit them with succours, as our particular Credit and interest can supply us with, if you refuse to joyne with us. And wee doubt not but the Leavies we shall make (in which we will observe punctually the former, and all other cautions, as may best prevent all Feares and Jealousies, and to use no power but what is Legall) will be so much to the satisfaction of our good Subjects, as no person will dare presume to resist our Commands, and if they should, at their perill. In the meane time we hope our forwardnesse, so remarkable to that service, shall be notorious to all the world, & that all scandalls layd on us in that businesse, shall be clearly wiped away.

VVe were so carefull that our Journey into Ireland should not interrupt the proceedings of Parliament, nor deprive our Subjects of any Acts of Iustice, or further Acts of Grace. for the reall benefit of our People, that we made a free offer of leaving such power behind, as should not onely be necessary for the peace and safety

of

of the Kingdome, but fully provide for the happy progresse of the Parliament. And therefore we cannot but wonder, since such Power hath beene alwayes left here by Commission for the Government of this Kingdome, when our Progenitours have been out of the same during the sitting of Parliaments, and since your selves desired that such a Power might be left here by us, at Our last going into Scotland, what Law of the Land have you now found to dilpence with you, from submitting to such Authority Legally derived from us in our absence, and to enable you to Govern this Kingdome by your owne meer Authority.

For Our returne towards *London*, We have given you so full an Answer in our late Declaration, and in Answer to your Petition presented to Us at *Yorke* the 26 of *March* last, that we know not what to adde, if you will not provide for Our Security with you, nor agree to remove to another place, where there may not be the same Danger to Us. We expected that (since we have beene so particular in the Causes and Grounds of Our Feares) you should have sent Us word, that you had published such Declarations against future Tumults, and unlawfull Assemblies, and taken such Courses for the suppressing of Seditious Sermons and Pamphlets, that Our Feares of that kind might be layd aside, before you should presse Our Returne.

To conclude, We could wish that you would (with the same strictnesse and severity) weigh and examine your Messages and Expressions to Us, as you doe those yee receive from Us: For We are very confident, that if you examine Our Rights and Priviledges, by what Our Predecessors have enjoyed; and your owne addresses, by the usuall Curses of your Ancestors, yee will finde many expressions in this Petition warranted onely by your Owne Authority, which indeed VVe forbear to take notice of, or to give Answer to, lest we should be tempted (in a just indignation) to expresse a greater Passion, then we are yet willing to put on. God in his good time (we hope) will so inform the hearts of all Our Subjects, that we shall recover from the mischief and danger of this Distemper: On whose good pleasure we will wait with all patience and humilitie.

His

His Majesties Message sent to the Parliament,

April 24. 1642.

Concerning Sir John Hothams Refusal to give His Majesties Entrance into Hull.

His Majesty having received the Petition inclosed from most of the chiefe of the County neere about Yorke, desiring the stay of His Majesties Armes and Munition in His Magazine at Hull, for the safety (not only of His Majesties Person and Children, but likewise of all these Northern parts: The manifold rumours of great Dangers inducing them to make their said Supplication) Thought it most fit to goe Himselfe in Person to his Towne of Hull, to view his Armes and Munition there, that thereupon He might give Directions, what part thereof might be necessary to remaine there, for the security and satisfaction of His Northern Subjects, and what part thereof might be spared for Ireland, The Arming of His Majesties Scots Subjects that are to goe thither, Or to replenish His chiefe Magazine of the Tower of London; Where being come, upon the three and twentieth of this last of *April*, much contrary to His expectation, He found all the Gates shut upon him, and the Bridges drawne up, by the expresse command of Sir John Hotham, (who for the present commands a Garrison there) and from the Walls flatly denied his Majesty Entrance into his said Towne, the reason of the said deniall being as strange to his Majesty, as the doing it selfe, It being, That hee could not admit his Majesty without breach of Trust to his Parliament; which did the more increase His Majesties anger against him, for that hee most Seditiously and Traiterously would have put his disobedience upon his Majesties Parliament; which his Majesty being willing to cleare, demanded of him if he had the impudence to averre, that the Parliament had directed him to deny his Majesty entrance, and that if he had any such Order, that hee should shew it in Writing, or otherwise his Majesty could not beleieve it; which he could no wayes produce, but maliciously made that false interpretation according to his owne Interence, confessing that he had no such positive Order, which his Majesty was ever confident of: But his Majesty not willing to take so much paines in vain, offered to come into that his Towne onely with twenty Horse, finding that the maine of his pretence lay, That his Majesties Fraine was able to Command the Garrison: Notwithstanding, his Majesty was so desirous to goe thither in a private way, that he gave warning thereof but over-night; Which hee refusing, but by way of Condition (which his Majesty thought much below Him) held it most necessary to declare him Traytor (unlesse upon better thoughts, he should yeeld Obedience) which he doubly deserved, aswell for refusing Entrance to his naturall Sovereign, as by laying the reason thereof groundlesly and maliciously upon his Parliament.

One Circumstance His Majesty cannot forget, That his Son the Duke of Yorke, and his Nephew the Prince Elector, having gone thither the day before, Sir John Hotham delayed the letting of them out to his Majesty till after some consultation.

Hereupon His Majesty hath thought it expedient to demand Justice of his Parliament against the said Sir John Hotham, to be exemplarily inflicted on him according to the Lawes, and he rather, because His Majesty would give them a fit occasion to free themselves of this Imputation, by him so injuriously cast upon them, to the end His Majesty may have the easier way for the chastising of so high a disobedience.

FINIS.



